

Docket No. RSW920000164US1

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHOD, APPARATUS, AND PROGRAM FOR MULTI-MACHINE NETWORK INSTALL USING WRITABLE MEDIA

5 The present invention provides a mechanism for performing
a network installation where the machines do not need to be
networked in advance and where user errors are minimized.
The present invention provides writable media, such as a
floppy disk, along with a software install. As software is
installed on each machine, configuration information is
10 stored on the writable media. At each machine, the
installation software is now able to search the writable
media to dynamically learn about the installation options
made at other machines. When the location of another
software application is required, the installation software
15 may produce a list of possible hosts based on configuration
information on the writable media. When a preference is
required to configure an application, the installation
software may select appropriate default values based on
values used in previous installations of the same software
20 or related applications. A user may be prompted to clone
the configuration of a previous installation of the same
application.